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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

Hidehiro MATSUMOTO

Title:

INFORMATION PROVIDING SYSTEM, INFORMATION PROVIDING METHOD, AND

CLIENT APPARATUS

Appl. No.:

09/777,882

Filing Date: 02/07/2001

Examiner:

Victor D Lesniewski

Art Unit:

2155

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT **UNDER 37 CFR §1.56**

Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO/SB/08 is a listing of documents known to Applicant in order to comply with Applicant's duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56. A copy of each listed document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicant does not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a prima facie art reference against the claims of the present application.



TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE

The listed documents are being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR §1.97(b), before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, and within three (3) months of the mailing date of the foreign search report.

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned hereby certifies in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97(e)(1) that the items listed on the Form PTO SB/08 submitted with this Information Disclosure Statement were first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three (3) months prior to the filing of this Statement.

RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT

The relevance of the foreign-language document is described in the present specification listed document was cited by the Japanese Patent Office (JPO) in connection with a counterpart application. In reference to the cited reference, the JPO stated as follows:

The inventions related to the following claims of the present application could have been easily invented by a person with ordinary knowledge of technology in the field to which the invention belongs based on the inventions recited in the publications below, which had been distributed in Japan or abroad prior to the application, and therefore cannot receive a patent according to the stipulations of Article 29, Paragraph 2 of the Japan Patent Law.

Note (For a list of the cited literature, see the List of Cited Literature)

1. Prior Art Literature 1 describes the point that in a proxy server, the administration and control of image data, etc., obtained from an information provision server, and, in a structure that provides said data to a client, the client, due to processing capabilities, not being able to use data that has been obtained directly from said data provision server, so that, in said proxy server, there is a function that converts said data into a form that could be used by the client and, additionally, said proxy server, in order to use effectively its own data storage region, is structured so that said converted data remains while the raw data obtained from said data provision server is disposed of, and a

structure wherein, if said data that has been disposed of is required, it is again obtained from the data provision server;

Where Prior Art Literature 2 and 3 also describe, for a low-capability client, the proxy or cache device performing similar image provision/storage processing; where

Prior Art Literature 3, etc., also describes allocations based on circuit speed; and

Prior Art Literature 4 describes the point that the client attribute data is obtained when the client is connected, and, given this configuration, it is obvious that it is possible for the server side to adapt even if there are dynamic changes to the client property data; and thus

The inventions described in Claims 1-15 in the Specification in the present application could have been obtained easily by an individual in the industry from the technologies described in Prior Art Literature 1 through 4.

List of Cited Literature

- 1. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication H11-296426
- 2. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication H11-219312
- 3. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication H11-161571
- 4. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication H11-250009

Documents A1 and A2 are counterparts to document A3. Full English-language translations of the foreign-language documents are not readily available. However, the absence of such translations does not relieve the PTO from its duty to consider the submitted foreign language documents (37 CFR §1.98 and MPEP §609).

Applicant respectfully requests that any listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO/SB/08 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 CFR §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

Date 4/29/04

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